

CLAIMS

1. A scroll compressor comprising: a compressor mechanism (20) including a first scroll (21) having an end plate (23) and a spiral wrap (24) formed thereon and a second scroll (22) having an end plate (25) and a spiral wrap (26) formed thereon and engaging with the first scroll (21);

a support (16) for supporting the second scroll (22);

a seal (18) arranged between the support (16) and the second scroll (22); and

a position adjustment means (40) for changing the position of the second scroll (22) along the axial direction of the compressor mechanism (20), wherein

the seal (18) hermetically contacts the end plate (25) of the second scroll (22) such that back pressure space (S3) for bringing the first scroll (21) and the second (22) into press contact with each other is defined inside the seal (18) with the scrolls (21, 22) being engaged and

the position adjustment means (40) is configured to change the position of the seal (18) between a sealing position at which the seal (18) hermetically contacts the end plate (25) of the second scroll (22) and a leakage position at which the seal (18) is separated from the end plate (25) of the second scroll (22).

2. A scroll compressor comprising: a compressor mechanism (20) including a first scroll (21) having an end plate (23) and a spiral wrap (24) formed thereon and a second scroll (22) having an end plate (25) and a spiral wrap (26) formed thereon for engaging with the first scroll (21);

a support (17) for supporting the first scroll (21);

a seal (18) arranged between the support (17) and the first scroll (21); and

a position adjustment means (40) for changing the position of the first scroll (21) along the axial direction of the compressor mechanism (20), wherein

the seal (18) hermetically contacts the end plate (23) of the first scroll (21) such that back pressure space (S3) for bringing the first scroll (21) and the second scroll (22) into press contact with each other is defined inside the seal (18) with the scrolls (21, 22) being engaged and

5 the position adjustment means (40) is configured to change the position of the seal (18) between a sealing position at which the seal (18) hermetically contacts the end plate (23) of the first scroll (21) and a leakage position at which the seal (18) is separated from the end plate (23) of the first scroll (21).

10 3. The scroll compressor of claim 1 or 2, wherein
the first scroll (21) is a stationary scroll prohibited from revolving and
the second scroll (22) is a moving scroll capable of moving with respect to the first scroll (21).

15 4. The scroll compressor of claim 1 or 2, wherein
the end plate (23 or 25) of the first scroll (21) or the second scroll (22) is provided with a back pressure introduction path (23a or 25a) for making the back pressure space (S3) communicate with part of a compressor chamber (27) defined between the first scroll (21) and the second scroll (22), the part being more inside than the periphery of the
20 compressor chamber (27).

5. The scroll compressor of claim 1 or 2, wherein
the support (16 or 17) includes a support recess (16a or 17a) for supporting the seal (18) such that the seal (18) moves toward or away from the support (16 or 17) and
25 the position adjustment means (40) includes a high pressure communication path (41) for making a rear end part of the support recess (16a or 17a) communicate with a high pressure region (S2), a low pressure communication path (42) for making a rear end part of

the support recess (16a or 17a) communicate with a low pressure region (14) and a switching mechanism (43) for switching the communication between the support recess (16a or 17a) and the low pressure communication path (42).

- 5 6. The scroll compressor of claim 5, wherein
- the high pressure communication path (41) is provided with a restrictor (44) and
- the low pressure communication path (42) is provided with an on-off valve (43) as
- the switching mechanism.